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actual accident experience, and which the commission cannot direct how to install or erect.

A bulletin by the same commission on *Store Fires* states that in 1916 there were in the state 242 such fires with a loss of nearly \$700,000, which was somewhat increased in 1917. The commission appeals to all merchants to take extra precautions against such fires as a *patriotic duty*. A bulletin on *Lightning Rods* and one addressed to the *Wisconsin Apprentice* urging him to obey the shop safety rules complete the industrial commission's recommendations. A monthly *Safety Review* is likewise published by this agency.

The State Board of Health issues the eighth edition of the *Powers and Duties of Health Boards* giving a full detail of the laws and instructions for the local boards. It also publishes a treatise on *Venereal Diseases, Their Restriction and Prevention*, which provides timely and simple material for sex education.

The twenty-third annual *Report* of the commissioner of banking is a substantial volume of nearly 500 pages. There are in the state 753 state banks, seven mutual savings banks and fifteen trust companies organized under state laws, of which thirty-nine had their inception during the last year. Their united capital is \$25,000,000, an increase of a million and a half over the preceding year. Their resources are \$339,700,000, an increase of forty-one million. The coöperation of the state banks in the Federal Liberty Loans is noted.

### THE WIDER FIELD

HANSEN, MARCUS L. *Old Fort Snelling 1819-1858*. (Iowa City, 1918.)

The subject of this study, put forth by the State Historical Society of Iowa, belongs to the domain of Wisconsin history as much as it does to that of Iowa, and to that of Minnesota in even greater degree. Its publication affords a fresh illustration of the truth long since regarded by scholars as axiomatic that the forces and activities of human life—which constitute the subject matter of history—pay scant regard to artificial boundaries of geography or government. An American commonwealth—least of all one situated in the upper Mississippi Valley—is not a detached atom floating in boundless space; rather are its various component elements bound by innumerable ties to communities and peoples outside its borders, and only by cognizing its relations with the world outside its legal bounds can its history be known at all. It is greatly to the credit of the historical departments of the states of the upper Mississippi valley that they

have long recognized the elements of similarity common to their historical heritage and that to a greater degree, perhaps, than elsewhere in the United States they have sought to coördinate their activities for the achievement of common ends.

Old Fort Snelling was established practically a century ago as a new outpost of our nation's far flung governmental domain, planted in the heart of a vast domain of barbarism. An infant born to the wife of an army officer en route with her husband to assist in laying the foundations of civilization at the junction of the St. Peters with the Mississippi lived to witness the development at this point of the greatest flour mart the world has ever known, while the centennial of the establishment of the fort finds there the commercial and social metropolis of a veritable inland empire with a population of over half a million souls. Thus graphically is suggested the wondrous change which has come to pass since the little detachment of regulars performed their toilsome journey across Lakes Huron and Michigan, up the Fox and down the Wisconsin, and up the Father of Waters to the mouth of the St. Peters in 1819. At that time the military power of the United States in the northwest found expression in a series of garrisons of which the most important were Fort Dearborn (Chicago), Fort Mackinac, Fort Howard (Green Bay), Fort Crawford (Prairie du Chien), Fort Armstrong (Rock Island), and Jefferson Barracks (St. Louis). To curb the troublesome Sioux in their restless feuds with their Chippewa neighbors, to control the relations between them and the white traders, incidentally making clear to the world that the United States and not Great Britain now ruled the region north of the Wisconsin and westward from the Mississippi to the Missouri, Fort Snelling was added to this chain of military forts. Thereafter until the passing of barbarism from this region the military establishment constituted the chief governmental influence in it. How important this was for the development of the civilization which has since come about, is the theme of Mr. Hansen's story. Wisely, we think, he treats the Fort as an institution typical of its kind on the frontier, thus enhancing the significance of the resulting study he has made. He has done his task well, and the book is commended to all our readers as an interesting contribution to the history we share in common with our neighboring states of the upper Mississippi valley.

The volume is printed in the workmanlike fashion common to the publications of the State Historical Society of Iowa—a fashion which Wisconsin cannot hope to imitate so long as the lawmakers continue to prescribe the present inefficient method of printing the Society's publications. We believe, however, that the practice of the State Historical Society of Iowa (illustrated in this volume) of putting the footnote references at the end of the volume entails much needless vexation and labor upon the reader.

M. M. Quaife.

The leading article in the *Catholic Historical Review* for July is by Rev. J. B. Culemans on "Catholic Explorers and Pioneers of Illinois." The other articles in the same issue are on "Diocesan Organization in the Spanish Colonies," and "New Netherland Intolerance." Under "Notes and Comment" appears an account of the measures instituted by the National Catholic War Council to secure for preservation the records of Catholic activities in the Great War.

"The first number of the *Illinois Catholic Historical Review* was issued at Chicago in July, 1918. Joseph J. Thompson is the editor in chief, and an imposing array of church dignitaries lend their countenance and support to the new venture. The magazine is attractively printed and illustrated and the first number sets a standard of interest and achievement which augurs well for the future of the enterprise. Among the leading articles in the first issue may be noted "Early Catholicity in Chicago," by Rev. Gilbert Garraghan; "The Illinois Missions," and "Illinois' First Citizen—Pierre Gibault," by Joseph J. Thompson; and "Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in Illinois" by Rev. Frederick Beuckman. The historical interests of the Middle West are to be congratulated on the acquisition of this promising journal.

The *Indiana Magazine of History* for September is given over to a one-hundred page article on "Secret Political Societies in the North during the Civil War." The author, Mayo Fesler, after an investigation of all available evidence, reaches the conclusion that not one-tenth of the membership of these supposedly treasonable orders (the Knights of the Golden Circle and related organizations) were aware of the designs of the leaders, or would have supported these designs when made known. The attitude of the President and other authorities at Washington of "good-humored contempt" toward the schemers, was, he concludes, fully justified by the facts concerning their puerility and impotence.

Among the articles in the July *Michigan History Magazine* of special interest to Wisconsin readers are "Indian Place Names in the Upper Peninsula and Their Interpretation," by Rev. William Gagnieur, and "County Organization in Michigan," by Wm. H. Hathaway. Other articles include a report on the archives in the State Department at Lansing and an address on "France in the Great War."

The principal article in the *Minnesota History Bulletin* for May is by L. B. Shippee on "Social and Economic Effects of the Civil War

with Special Reference to Minnesota." Mr. Theodore Blegen, of Milwaukee, contributes an interesting discussion of the policy of the Minnesota Historical Society of building up its collections of material pertaining to Scandinavian-American history. The August number of the *Bulletin* has as its leading article an interesting discussion of "The Influence of Geographic Factors in the Development of Minnesota."

Of the three leading articles in the June *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* the one most closely associated with Wisconsin is by Wm. L. Jenks on "Territorial Legislation by Governor and Judges." "Populism in Louisiana during the Nineties" and "Stephen F. Austin" are the titles of the two other articles in this issue.

Interesting articles in the *Missouri Historical Review* for July are "The Missouri Soldier One Hundred Years Ago," by Wm. R. Gentry, and "The National Railroad Convention in St. Louis, 1849," by R. S. Cotterdill. Two articles of especial timeliness are also included in the magazine: one on General Enoch Crowder, who like General Pershing is claimed as a Missourian, and one by Secretary Shoemaker on "Missouri and the War."

The New York Historical Society has an active Field Exploration Committee, an account of whose doings is given in the July issue of the society's *Quarterly Bulletin*. Those who are familiar with Broadway merely through its reputation as an amusement and recreation center may be interested to learn that by the diligent use of shovel and broom the committee has recently unearthed, within a few hundred feet of upper Broadway, many interesting remains of the Revolutionary camp sites of American, British, and Hessian troops.

A study of *The Illinois and Michigan Canal*, James W. Putnam's doctoral dissertation at the University of Wisconsin, has been issued as Volume X in the *Collections* of the Chicago Historical Society.

*The Morrills and Reminiscences* (Chicago and Lincoln, 1918) tells in one hundred fifty-seven pages and two score illustrations the life story of Charles Henry Morrill, a native of New Hampshire, who came West at the close of the Civil War and in due time achieved prosperity and prominence in the state of Nebraska.

*An Account of A Journey to Indiana in 1817* is the journal of Thomas Dean, of Deansboro, New York, attractively printed by his grandson, John C. Dean, of Indianapolis. Thomas Dean's journey

was made as agent of the Brothertown Indians of New York who were seeking a western home—one ultimately found in eastern Wisconsin. Dean travelled over 20,000 miles in their interest, including four trips to Green Bay. The new publication is an interesting addition to the literature of middle western history. It is interesting to note that until recently the journal was buried away, along with a mass of other papers, in a trunk in an Indianapolis attic. How many such records, one would like to know, are still buried in the attics of Wisconsin? That there are many is certain—as it is that the ravages of time and chance decrease the total with every passing year.

Those who are interested in Traverse City, Michigan, and vicinity will welcome *Old Settlers of the Grand Traverse Region* (Traverse City, 1918), a booklet of eighty-six pages, compiled by S. E. Wait and W. S. Anderson. In addition to many views of early scenes and actors in the settlement of this portion of the Wolverine State, the booklet contains historical sketches of the schools and postoffice of Traverse City, of pioneer life, Indian history, and lists of early settlers in the region concerned.

Three recently printed booklets which have come to the Historical Library seem to evidence the increasing spread, in the older-settled East, of a custom which might well be practiced more generally in the Middle West than is now the case. *Old Providence*, printed for the Commercial National Bank of Providence to commemorate its centenary is well described by its subtitle as “a collection of facts and traditions relating to various buildings and sites of historic interest in Providence.” *Some Old Sites on an Old Thoroughfare and an Account of Some Early Residents Thereon*, printed for Macullar Parker Company of Boston, describes the historical evolution of a portion of Washington Street on which since 1857 this firm has been located. *Old Shipping Days in Boston*, compiled and printed by the State Street Trust Company, is the thirteenth annual pamphlet to be issued by this firm. All of the booklets noticed are beautifully printed and illustrated. Although issued primarily to serve the function of advertising the businesses responsible for their printing they constitute useful and attractive additions to the local history section of any reference library.